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13408 U.S. PTO

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July 22, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail EV 313038952 US

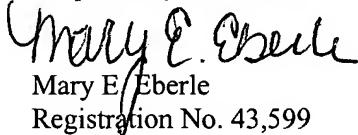
Re: Nonprovisional Utility Patent Application
Inventors: Thomas G. Rehberger and Charles V. Maxwell
Title: *Lactobacillus* Strains and Uses Therefor
Priority: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/397,654; Filed July 22, 2002
Small Entity Status Claimed
Customer Account No.: 23598
Attorney Docket No.: 362.017

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed a new utility nonprovisional application that claims priority in the above-identified U.S. provisional application. This nonprovisional application includes 35 sheets of specification, 39 claims on 6 sheets, an Abstract, 10 sheets of drawings (Figs. 1-12), and an unexecuted Declaration. The filing fee and the executed Declaration and Assignment documents will be filed at a later date.

Authorization is given to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

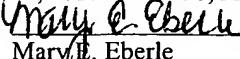
Respectfully submitted,


Mary E. Eberle
Registration No. 43,599

MEE:ds

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail Label No.: EV 313038952 US **Date of Deposit: July 22, 2003**
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Mary E. Eberle